

State Library of North Carolina

2013-2014 Annual Program Plan for LSTA Competitive Grant Programs

Important Dates	
September 7, 2012	Annual Program Plan posted EZ Grant Guidelines and Applications posted Project Grant Guidelines posted Letter of Intent instructions and form posted NC Cardinal Guidelines & Application posted
November 1, 2012	Letters of Intent (LOI) for Project Grants due NC Cardinal Applications due
December 12, 2012	Letter of Intent decisions announced Project Grant Applications posted
February 28, 2013	All Applications Due EZ Grants, Project Grants, and Multi-year Project Grants
June 11, 2013	Grant awards announced at < http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/grants/lsta.html >

The 2013-2014 grant programs outlined in this document are aligned with the State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan 2013-2017* and its goals. Full information on these grants is available at <<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/grants/lsta/2013-2014grants.html>>.

Summary of Goals

The State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan for 2013-2017* contains four goals. Each of the goals listed below is related to one or more of the eight LSTA purposes, is based on identified need, and strives toward excellence and equity in North Carolina's libraries.

1. Partnerships and Collaboration

North Carolina libraries will partner with each other, with businesses, and with other organizations to extend their reach and enhance their capacity.

2. Continuing Education

North Carolina library staff will have the necessary planning and learning opportunities that enable them to provide exceptional library programs, services, and resources.

3. Literacy and Lifelong Learning

North Carolina libraries will equip users for success in life, school, and work through library programs and services that support literacy and lifelong learning.

4. Access, Digitization, and Preservation

North Carolina libraries will expand access to information resources by strengthening, sharing, digitizing and preserving our valuable and unique collections.

EZ Grants – Letter of Intent (LOI) **Not** Required

EZ Grants have a simplified application process and are used for single year programs with clearly defined purposes and outcomes. The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each EZ Grant as part of the Annual Program Plan. State Library staff review EZ Grant applications and determine funding decisions based on those criteria. Applicants have the opportunity to appeal funding decisions to the LSTA Advisory Committee. EZ Grants do not require a Letter of Intent.

Libraries eligible to apply are public libraries, community college libraries, UNC libraries, and private academic libraries (NCICU). Eligible partners include school libraries, other libraries, and non-library organizations.

Partnerships are encouraged in all categories.

The **minimum** amount that may be requested for all EZ Grant categories is \$5,000; the **maximum** amount is up to \$50,000.

Grant Category	Match
<p>EZ Collaboration & Innovation Grants to foster collaboration and innovation in North Carolina libraries to extend their reach and enhance their capacity that may be achieved through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • library partnerships with each other, with businesses, and with other organizations; or • creative experimentation in trying new or different approaches to programs, services, or technologies. Technology is allowable in this category. 	10% w/a partner 25% single library
<p>EZ Literacy & Lifelong Learning Grants to advance literacy and lifelong learning through projects that expand patrons' ability to read, write, and interact across a range of platforms, tools, and media; and/or projects that promote continuous learning. Technology is allowable in this category.</p>	10% w/a partner 25% single library
<p>EZ Planning (only available as an EZ Grant) Grants to support needs assessment and planning for programs/services; planning for use of existing space to provide or expand services for library users; planning for technology; or project planning – i.e. carrying out needs assessments and collaborative planning prior to applying for an LSTA Project Grant. Funds are primarily for consulting assistance; some other expenses are allowable depending upon the nature of the project.</p>	none

Project Grants – Letter of Intent (LOI) Required

Project Grants have a two-step process that requires a preliminary Letter of Intent (LOI). These grants are for more complex projects that may be single or multi-year, that address locally defined needs and priorities, and are funded at a higher level than EZ Grants. The LSTA Advisory Committee sets criteria for each Project Grant as part of the Annual Program Plan. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the Letters of Intent and makes recommendations based on those criteria following preliminary review by State Library staff and, in some instances, peer reviewers. If a library's LOI is approved, a full application may be submitted. State Library staff and peer reviewers evaluate full grant applications. The LSTA Advisory Committee reviews the applications and reviewers' ratings prior to making funding recommendations to the State Librarian.

Libraries eligible to apply are public libraries, community college libraries, UNC libraries, and private academic libraries (NCICU). Eligible partners include school libraries, other libraries, and non-library organizations.

Partnerships are encouraged in all categories.

The **minimum** amount that may be requested for all Project Grant categories is \$50,000; the **maximum** amount is up to \$100,000.

Grant Category	Match
<p>Collaboration & Innovation Grants to foster collaboration and innovation in North Carolina libraries to extend their reach and enhance their capacity that may be achieved through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> library partnerships with each other, with businesses, and with other organizations; or creative experimentation in trying new or different approaches to programs, services, or technologies. Technology is allowable in this category. 	<p>10% w/a partner 25% single library</p>
<p>Literacy & Lifelong Learning Grants to advance literacy and lifelong learning through projects that expand patrons' ability to read, write, and interact across a range of platforms, tools, and media; and/or projects that promote continuous learning. Technology is allowable in this category.</p>	<p>10% w/a partner 25% single library</p>
<p>Access & Digitization* (only available as a Project Grant) Grants to increase access to, and use of, North Carolina's library holdings such as implementation of RFID (radio frequency identification technology); a new ILS (integrated library system) online catalog; digitization of content and contextual information; preparation of online finding aids; incorporation of Web cataloging or metadata into digitization projects; or provision of long term preservation for digital projects. Technology is allowable in this category.</p>	<p>10%</p>

*The State Library supports the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center, a statewide digitization and digital publishing program. The Digital Heritage Center works with libraries and cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historic materials online through its free or low-cost digitization and online hosting services. Prospective applicants should consider whether the Digital Heritage Center can help them achieve their project goals. Some applicants may find that working cooperatively with the Center is more efficient than applying for and managing a Digitization project grant. For further information, please see <http://www.digitalnc.org> or contact Nicholas Graham at ngraham@unc.edu or 919-962-4836.